Skylines

April

52

KANSAS CITY CHAPTER

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

KANSAS CITY CHAPTER
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

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Skylines

KANSAS CITY CHAPTER · AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

APRIL - 1952

CHAPTER MEETING

Tuesday Evening
April 8

The Wishbone
4455 Main Street

BRUCE GOFF
Guest Speaker

LEONARD BAILEY
Central States Regional Director

STUDENT GUESTS
Kansas University
Kansas State College

The April Chapter meeting promises to be one of the most interesting of the current year. Let's have a big turnout to meet the fine array of guests who have been invited to Kansas City for this meeting.

Mr. Goff is probably the most widely known architect in this region. Last year the publication of his "Umbrella House" for the Samuel Fords in Aurora, Illinois, drew comment throughout the country. He is head of the school of architecture at the University of Oklahoma at Norman, and recently lectured at McGill University and Harvard.

Mr. Bailey has expressed great interest in his forthcoming visit to Kansas City. He will tell us of recent activity of the national Board of Directors of the Institute and advise us in regard to the Central States Conference to be held here in October.

Business Meeting	5:30 Sharp
Cocktails	6:15
Dinner ($2.25)	6:45
Program	7:30

PHONE RESERVATIONS VI. 8110

Notes From The Directors

Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Kansas City Chapter, American Institute of Architects, held March 7, 1952.

A legal opinion by John T. Carr Lowe, attorney for the St. Louis Chapter, in regard to the existence of the Missouri Association, was read by Pres. Roark. In his opinion the Missouri Association does not exist as a part of the A. I. A.

A letter to Leonard Bailey of Oklahoma City, Regional Director, from Joe Shaughnessy, was read by Mr. Shaughnessy in regard to obtaining clarification at the A. I. A. Directors meeting concerning assignment of members living in Kansas to the greater Kansas City Chapter. It is hoped that clarification can be obtained on this matter so that Johnson County members can be assigned to the Kansas City Chapter. Wyandotte County is now a part of our Chapter.

Frank Brandt, partner in the firm of Willis and Brandt, was approved as a Corporate member.

Frank Grimaldi of the firm of Shaughnessy and Bower, was also approved as a Corporate member.

CENTRAL STATES *Conference* . . . .

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

OCTOBER 9, 10, 11, 1952

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

NOTES FROM THE CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN

All the committees now have their proposed budgets in the hands of the Finance Committee. After these have been studied a few more days, a meeting of all committee chairmen will be held to consider the over-all program and adopt a final budget.

The Program Committee is working hard on getting commitments from the various "name" speakers. It must be remembered that several letters are required to each prospect, whether he is eventually signed up or not. This is a critical time in their operations because they must secure thesemen far in advance.

The Committee on Ladies Events has virtually completed all arrangements for their program, including speakers, meeting places, tours, etc. This committee is to be commended for an outstanding job. It is felt that the program they have set up will be by far the most attractive ever offered at a Central States Conference.

The Committee chairmen are looking forward to a meeting with Leonard Bailey, Regional Director, during his forth-coming visit to our chapter. He will be able to give us some valuable advice when we review the proposed program with him.

DUES INCREASE VOTED AT MARCH CHAPTER MEETING

Treasurer Bill Simon presented the proposed 1952 budget to the chapter at the February meeting, illustrating the expanding activity of the A. I. A. in this area and the need for increased dues.

After considerable discussion and motions and amendments, it became apparent that the chapter members favored dues increases exceeding those requested by the Board of Directors.

Here are the dues which go into effect for the current year:

Corporate Members	- $25.00
Corporates living more than 50 miles from Kansas City	- 20.00
Associate Members	- 17.50
Junior Associates	- 12.00

CONVENTION DELEGATES

Discussion was asked in regard to sending delegates to the National Convention in New York. It was decided that the 4 officers would be selected as delegates. Discussion was had in regard to sending a Junior member and an Associate member to this Convention. It was agreed that these groups would discuss this matter and present to the Board a list of those who are interested in representing their respective groups.

MARCH MEETING PROGRAM

Mr. Herbert Hare presented a beautiful color slide program showing architectural landscaping and gardens of the Scandinavian countries, England and France.

****

WEDDING BELLS

The big day comes for John C. Monroe on Saturday, April 5. He will be married to Miss Leona Wallenmeyer at Central Methodist Church, 55th and Oak.

John has graciously invited chapter members to the reception which will be held at 2:30 in the afternoon at the Church.

****

New Faces

Two Junior Associate Members introduced at the March Chapter meeting;

George W. Franklin

Hubert J. Hamlin

NOTICE OF COMPETITION FOR MEDAL AWARDS
FOR THE BEST BUILDINGS COMPLETED IN 1951

The Medal Awards Committee of the Chapter asks all members to enter submissions by APRIL 4, 1952 for any work which they feel should be eligible for the competition. In the past, much excellent work, either on account of neglect or undue modesty on the part of its designers, has not been submitted, and the Chapter could not therefore recognize the years' accomplishments properly. This situation is, we hope, to be remedied this year as follows:

FIRST: A Preliminary Submission, due April 4, will be held at which time nominations for final entries should be made. These may be by snapshot, or larger photograph, by telephone call, by written note, or by word of mouth. Simply let some member of the Medal Awards Committee know what you think is good, whether it is your work or someone's else, and DON'T BE MODEST. Tell the Committee member the name of the job, give him a brief description, the name of the Owner, and the purpose of the building. If you do not have photographs, don't worry and don't delay! - the Committee will either get them, or visit the actual job. Of course, if you've built something in Maine or California and don't have a photograph, include traveling expense money for at least one member of the Committee.

SECOND: From the Preliminary Submissions, the Committee will select the work it considers eligible for the final judgment and these competitors will be asked to furnish photographs. The final awards will be made at the May 13 Chapter Meeting, where the Owners will be invited to be present. The Chapter plans to exhibit the Medal Winners at the Central States Conference, October 9, 10, 11, 1952.

The following classifications of buildings are eligible:

a. Residential
b. Commercial
c. Ecclesiastical
d. Industrial
e. Institutional
f. Educational
g. Open - details, special features, or a part only of some project.

The Medal Awards Committee is:

Homer F. Neville, Chairman	25 East 12th Street	HA. 6804
Arthur S. Keene	15 West Tenth Street	HA. 5142
Ernest O. Brostrom	4302 Oak Street	WE. 4957
Chester Dean	Temple Bldg.	VI. 9585
Hubert Swanson	216 E. 10th Street	VI. 6762

Buildings to see in the Kansas City area

SKYLINES has had meager response to the request that Chapter members send us their opinions on the "Top Three" buildings from this list of nominees:

Nelson Art Gallery
Union Station
Municipal Auditorium
Hall's
Brotherhood Building
City Hall
Home for the Jewish Aged
St. Francix Xavier Church
New Buildings - Art Institute
World War II Memorial Building
Sunshine Biscuit Building
Liberty Memorial
Congregation Beth Shalom
Adler House
Boley Building

These fifteen buildings were named by nine chapter members who submitted their lists of the "Ten Outstanding Buildings" in the Kansas City area and includes only those mentioned more than once. If you have further nominations, we welcome them. To date 46 buildings have been cited.

Send your votes for the "Top Three" to SKYLINES Editor, 402 Congress Building before the 20th of April so we can compile our master list of "Buildings to see in the Kansas City area." Your cooperation will add to the value of this list. Corporate members who wish to compile a "Ten Best" list are urged to do so and we will publish them as space permits.

1882

1952

TO OBSERVE THE SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR ORGANIZATION, SKYLINES BEGINS IN THIS ISSUE A SERIES OF ARTICLES ON THE HISTORY OF THE KANSAS CITY CHAPTER AS COMPILED BY DICK JOHNSON. THE FIRST INSTALLMENT IS AN ARTICLE WHICH WAS WRITTEN IN 1912 BY MR. BEN J. LUBSCHEZ, PRESIDENT OF THE CHAPTER AT THAT TIME. CHAPTER "OLD TIMERS" ARE URGED TO COOPERATE WITH RESEARCHER JOHNSON IN THIS PROJECT. HE CAN BE REACHED AT WE. 7474 (OFFICE) or JE. 7994.

The First Thirty Years

"The need for organization among the architects in Kansas City was first felt in 1882 and at that time was first formed the Kansas City Society of Architects with the late A. B. Cross as president and F. B. Hamilton as secretary. This primary organization, however, showed little activity and was gradually lost sight of until April 11, 1885, when a meeting of several architects was held at the Centropolis Hotel and the society was revived and reorganized with F. B. Hamilton as president, E. F. Fassett as secretary and about twenty members. The principal work in this first year of its active existence was the fathering of a building ordinance for the city and the agitation for the appointment of a public inspector of plumbing. It is very interesting to note that at this time the Kansas City Society of Architects had its own meeting rooms, maintained a library of current professional periodicals, a permanent exhibit of building materials and held weekly meetings.

"The Society became a chapter of the Missouri State Association of Archi-

tects in 1887 and continued as such until 1891, when the State Association was dissolved.

"In 1888 was held, under the auspices of the Society, the first exhibition of architectural drawings of the Kansas City Exposition.

"Among the activities of the Society in its early years were also the attempt to bring about a standardization of measurements of building materials and the very laudable one of going into the merits of controversies between its members and their clients before taking such controversies to court.

"In October, 1890, the Kansas City Society of Architects reorganized as the Kansas City Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, with the late W. F. Hackney as president and James Oliver Hoag, as secretary. The Chapter, though active for a time, began to lose life and partly owing to the very hard times coming on and partly to the difficulties in procuring a charter from the American Institute, it practically suspended activities early in 1895.

"In the first week of 1898 the Chapter was again called together and for a few years showed considerable life, being particularly active in promoting architects license legislation. The Chapter now had no regular meeting place, but in 1901, after the organization of the Kansas City Architectural Club, the Chapter became a sub-tenant of the club rooms. The Kansas City Architectural Club was composed of the younger architects and draftsmen and the Chapter at one time instituted competitions for the members of the club, but little interest developed in these. Upon the disorganization of the Kansas City Architectural Club in 1905 the Chapter was again without a home and met at the homes of the various members. During these years two very successful exhibitions were held.

The Chapter was again becoming inactive and very indifferent as an organization. Its membership had been between fifteen and twenty-five for more than twenty years and in 1911 the organization was almost dead.

"About this time, a year or so ago, the younger men in the Chapter took hold, a vigorous campaign for members was begun, the membership nearly doubled and the Chapter has become a potent factor in local happenings as well as an effective representative of the profession. It was the leading instigator in the fight for decency in the State Capitol competition and the successful outcome of this fight was a great triumph.

"The season has just been closed with a banquet and most entertaining meeting, when nearly all the members were present, and later with an exhibition which was by far the best of its kind ever held in Kansas city and perhaps in the West.

"The Chapter now has forty-three members and shares the rooms of the Fine Arts Institute as its home."

Ben J. Lubschez.
President, Kansas City Chapter, A. I. A.
September, 1912

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FRANK BEARD, CHAIRMAN
WALTER E. BRYAN
WILLIAM M. SPANN

At a meeting held Monday February 11 in Jefferson City the Registration Board devoted most of the session to an open hearing on regulations to be adopted by the Board, conforming to the revised registration law which became effective last October.

It was an interesting session in which a dozen or more registered architects and engineers took an active part. Among the regulations considered was one fixing dates of examinations to be given under the new law.

On recommendation of the Architectural Division of the Board a regulation was agreed upon fixing the last Monday in October each year and the three days following as the time for examination of architects at Jefferson City. The first half of the examination, Monday and Tuesday, will be devoted to a written examination for enrollment of architects-in-training and written preliminary examination for registration of architects. The second half, which will be Wednesday and Thursday following, will be devoted to a 2-day written and oral final examination for registration of architects. No examinations will be given in the Spring.

Kansas City architects attending the meeting were Joseph B. Shaughnessy and J. Carl Jourdan. Other architects attending were, Joseph D. Murphy, Dean, and R. W. Bockhorst, Assistant Dean, School of Architecture, Washington University, St. Louis.

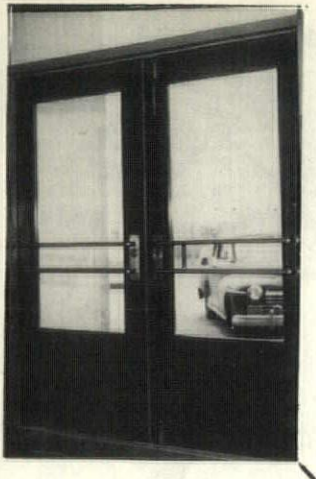
Engineers from St. Louis, Columbia, Rolla, Springfield and Jefferson City were also in attendance at the meeting. All members from both Divisions of the Board were present throughout the hearing.

* * * * * * * * *

A three-way conference between a committee of the State Board of Registration for Architects and Professional Engineers, registered architects and registered professional engineers was held at the Kentwood Arms Hotel at Springfield, Missouri, on Thursday, March 6, 1952.

The conference opened at 10 o'clock in the morning and continued through until five in the afternoon. The subject under discussion was the use of the personal seal by registered architects and registered professional engineers.

It was made clear by Chairman Bruce Williams and Col. William M. Spann, who comprised the Board committee, (1) that no registered architect or professional engineer engaged in private practice as an individual may legally place his professional seal on any plans, specifications, reports or documents not prepared by him or under his immediate personal supervision; (those engaged in private practice as individuals are not required by law to place their signatures adjacent to professional seal); and (2) that no officer, member or employee of a partnership or corporation may release any plans or specifications prepared by him or under his immediate supervision unless he shall affix his personal seal on such plans and specifications with his signature and registration number adjacent to said seal.



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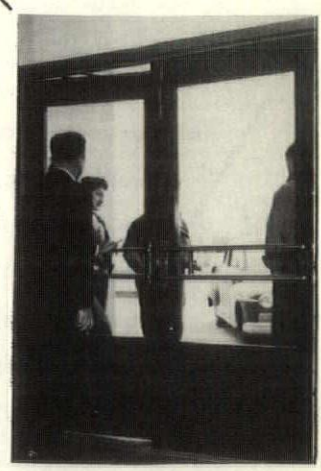

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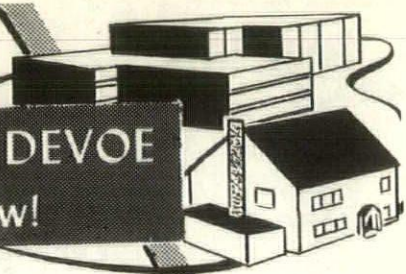

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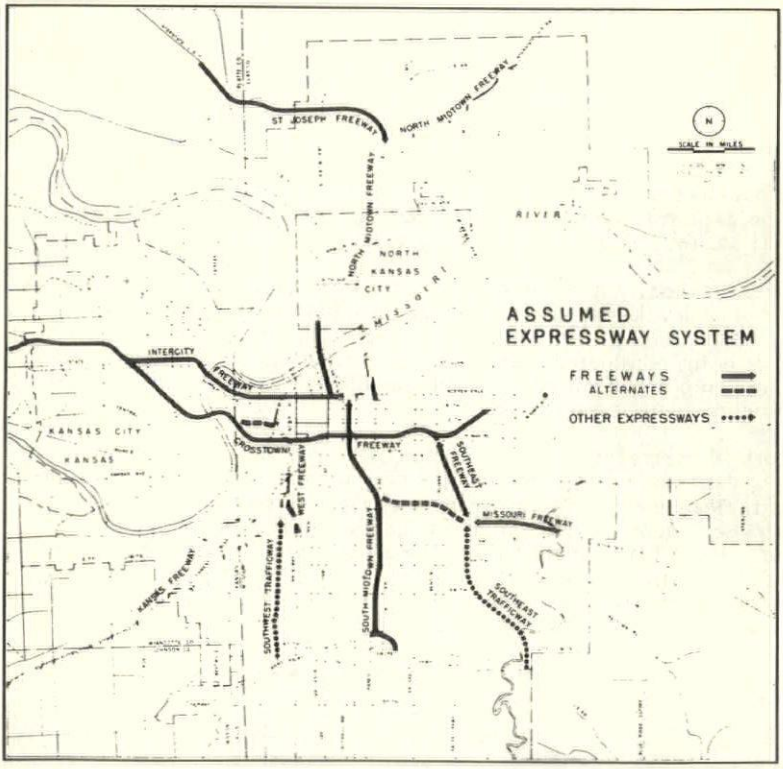

SKYLINES is pleased to publish this drawing of the contemplated expressway system for Greater Kansas City (even at this minute scale) because it represents a thorough, complete plan for handling the ever-growing traffic problem. Although traffic is rather far removed from the design of individual buildings, it is completely bound into the city planning aspect of architecture, and is something we should not ignore. In the February issue of SKYLINES the report "Expressways - Greater Kansas City" was reviewed. The Chief purpose of this article is to point out that the report contains plan and profile sheets showing detailed engineering data on various routes of the expressway system and rights-of way and interchange connections together with necessary ramps, sufficiently detailed to serve as the basis of required property acqui-

sition, and it is advisable for those considering a building location near these proposed expressways to check with the Commission.

Here is some comment on the expressways from the City Plan Commission: When the construction of these expressways was first started with the Southwest Trafficway, it was agreed that the Federal Government, the State and the City would share alike in the cost of acquisition of property, each paying on-third of the cost, and the cost of construction would be divided between the Federal Government and the State of Missouri. Since then, it has become the policy of the State Highway Commission not to share in the right-of-way cost and this cost is proposed to be divided equally between the Federal Government and the City.

The cost of the completed expressway system for Greater Kansas City is suggested to be amortized over a 30-year period. In studying methods of financing it has been assumed that the Federal Government will continue to furnish $750,000 a year, based on present allocations, over the 30-year period. The Missouri Highway Department has informed Kansas City that the State would not be able to contribute more than $600,000 a year toward construction costs. The City would provide approximately $591,500 a year to cover the City's share of one-half of the right-of-way costs. The estimated average annual cost of the expressway system would be $4,132,400, which would leave an additional $2,190,900 to be raised each year.

At the present time, approximately 25 percent of the required right-of-way is vacant or undeveloped and could be acquired at an estimated cost of 3 1/4 million, which is only 10 percent of the total right-of-way cost. A bond proposal is being considered by the Council for presentation to the voters to raise a portion of the funds necessary to acquire this property before costly developments make it prohibitive.

The report "Expressways - Greater Kansas City" goes into great detail on the supporting data which has been accumulated to justify the expressways and includes tables showing anticipated costs of the rights-of-way, construction, administration, depreciation and maintenance, and amortization of the investment. It has been suggested that the construction program be divided into four stages and detailed estimates are furnished on the cost of each of these stages. This was done because it is realized that adequate funds would not be available to build the system as a unit.

****

Lecture Series Well Attended

The series of six lectures, concluded on March 27, was a well received function of the Chapter Committee on Public Relations. Weekly talks were given by Angus McCallum, Ralph Myers, Jack Morley, and Bob Everitt of the K.C. Chapter A.I.A. and Dorr Carroll of City Bond and Mortgage Co., all dealing with the problems of the designing and construction of a house. John C. Monroe, Chapter Associate, served as moderator for the series and will give a detailed report of the course in the next issue of SKYLINES. The University of Kansas Extension and the Kansas City Art Institute cooperated with the Chapter in this fine public relations activity.

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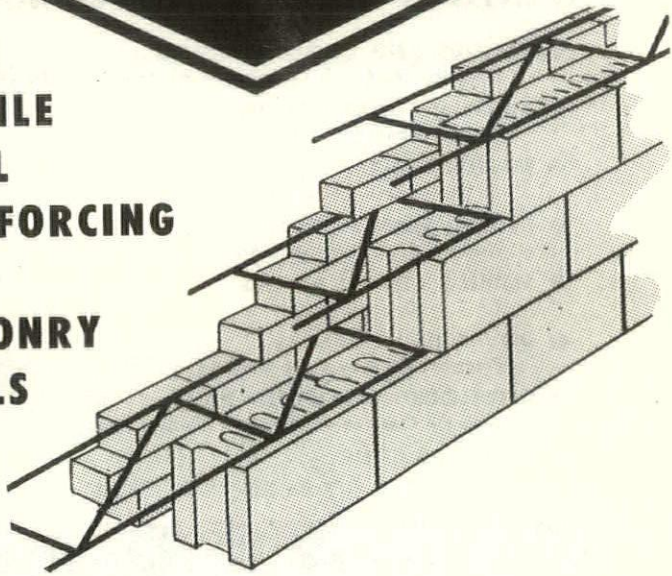

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Building Products Literature Competition

From the transcript of the proceedings of the joint A. I. A. - Producer's Council meeting held in February, the following information has been sent to Washington, D. C., together with the Kansas City nominations:

1. Greatest complaint from the Architects was that generally they did not have the latest product literature in their office.

2. A great many pieces of the literature were not 8 1/2 x 11, which most architects agreed was the best size for general use and, of course, filing.

3. Much of the literature did not have an A. I. A. filing number for easy identification.

4. A great per cent of the literature was not designed for architects use; too much of it was designed for general use or for use by lumber dealers, suppliers, or men in the field. Several pieces of literature apparently designed for the layman's use rather than the architect's.

5. Some manufacturers suggested uses for their products which in the opinion of many architects was not a suitable use.

6. It was generally agreed that one piece of literature in various colors was worth several pieces of black and white literature.

7. It was generally agreed that spiral bound catalogs offered many advantages particularly to the draftsman who could lay them flat on a drafting board or by folding the catalog could reduce them to a minimum size. Also, considered desirable, is a loose leaf type sheet which could be bound in a book or removed from the binder for full size detail tracing (Kawneer Company portfolio, an excellent example).

8. Catalogs with a tabbed edge index are definitely desirable.

9. Where a specification reference can be reduced to a single number or group of numbers, this is a great aid to the architect in easily and adequately covering specification requirements. (An excellent example of this was the American Standard Plumbing & Heating catalogs.)

In regard to space advertising directed primarily to the architect, it was generally agreed that the most effective ad embodied the following ideas.

1. The ad should be generally uncluttered and have a simple attractiveness.

2. A picture of a finished building of high architectural value using the material advertised, was desirable.

3. A detailed drawing of the exact use of the material in the building pictured would be of value.

4. Minimum but accurate technical information to justify the use.

Associated General Contractors Annual Meeting

The Chapter was out in force for the annual A.G.C. dinner on February 21 at the President Hotel, it most certainly was, and good drinks, a good time and a good dinner were enjoyed by all, including the speech of Mr. James Arrington, the "mayor" of Collin, Mississippi, who used the "most certainly" phrase after every third sentence. He spoke witha thick southern accent, he most certainly did, and had some words about what's wrong with the way "archy-tecks" are designing houses these days -- they're leaving off the front porches. His text was rather sterotyped, but not his phrasing, when he analyzed the trouble with this fine country of ours; and he gave a few humorous pointers on how to keep from being too "pest-a-mistic" about the situation.

All in all, it was a fine party, it most certainly was, and we thank the contractors for having us as their guests.

Mr. Gunn enjoys his dinner.

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Adler House
Boley Building

****

Mr. Frank Grimaldi
Congress Building
3527 Broadway
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Frank:

In providing you with my selection of the ten buildings, later printed in the SKYLINES, I inadvertently neglected to credit the name of Mr. Edward Buehler Delk along with that of Neville, Sharp and Simon as architects for the University of Kansas Memorial Campanile.

I would appreciate very much your making a correction to this effect, at your earliest convenience, in the SKYLINES.

Very sincerely,

Raymond L. Voskamp

LV:b

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS FOR YEAR 1952

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	Hubert Swanson	
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	David Mackie	Angus McCallum
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